2017 Water Quality Report
Bensalem Division, PWSID # PA1090078

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

About Your Drinking Water

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. (Aqua) is pleased to provide you with important information about your drinking water in this 2017 Consumer Confidence Report for the Bensalem Division (public water supply ID PA1090078). The report summarizes the quality of water Aqua Pennsylvania provided in 2017 - including details about water sources, what the water at your tap contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Although the report lists only those regulated substances that were detected in your water, we test for more than what is reported. This report is only a summary of our testing during 2017. If you have any questions about the information in this report, please call 610.645.4248 or visit our website at AquaAmerica.com.

Sources of Supply

Water for the Bensalem Division comes from two surface water sources: the Delaware River and Neshaminy Creek. This water is supplied through connections with Aqua Pennsylvania's Bristol and Main divisions and with the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority. Source water assessments for the Delaware River and Neshaminy Creek were completed in 2002 by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Assessments found that the Delaware and Neshaminy sources are potentially susceptible to spills, wastewater discharges and overflows, and to runoff from roads, parking lots, and farmlands. Overall, both sources have a moderate risk of significant contamination. Information on the source water assessments is available on the DEP Web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us (DEP keyword "Source Water Assessment Summary Reports"). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water suppliers, local planning agencies, and DEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the DEP Southeast Regional Office, Records Management Unit, 484.250.5900.

The sources of drinking water (tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline, at 800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, at 800.426.4791.

The following table lists contaminants that were detected during 2017 (unless otherwise noted) in your water system. The table provides the average of the sources used to supply the Division, as well as minimum and maximum observed levels of regulated contaminants. The state allows monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data below, though representative, are more than one year old.

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., Bensalem Division, PWSID # PA1090078

Contaminants	Average Detection	Range of Detections	MCL	MCLG	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chloramines, ppm	2.5	1.9 – 2.8	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	2017	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Radiological – values are in pCi/L - EPA considers a level of concern for beta/photon emitters to be 50 pCi/L; the MCL is 4 millirems/year.							
Alpha emitters	1.8	ND - 3.5	15	0	2011	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters	9	ND - 18	50	0	2011	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined radium	0.9	ND - 1.7	5	0	2011	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts – Compliance is based on the locational running annual average (LRAA) of quarterly results for each sampling location. The range of detections is for individual sample results.							
Haloacetic acids, ppb	24	10 - 47	60	NA	2017	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalo-methanes, ppb	30	8 - 55	80	NA	2017	N	

Violation: In July 2017, we received a monitoring violation for collecting haloacetic acid samples outside of our scheduled monitoring period. Therefore, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time. We collected the required samples on-time, but due to a lab issue, one (1) sample result could not be used. We have since updated our procedures to prevent this type of violation from occurring again.

Tap water samples were collected from homes in the service area for lead and copper testing.

Lead and Copper	90th Percentile	Total Number of Samples	Samples Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper (ppm)	0.05	30	0	1.3	1.3	2016	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	ND	30	0	15	0	2016	N	

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Aqua is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your cold water tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Our water systems are designed and operated to deliver water to our customers' plumbing systems that complies with state and federal drinking water standards. This water is disinfected using chlorine, but it is not necessarily sterile. Customers' plumbing, including treatment devices, might remove, introduce or increase contaminants in tap water. All customers, and in particular operators of facilities like hotels and institutions serving susceptible populations (like hospitals and nursing homes), should properly operate and maintain the plumbing systems in these facilities. You can obtain additional information from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) require that once every five years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs). The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) provides EPA and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the occurrence of contaminants in drinking water. These data serve as a primary source of occurrence and exposure information that the agency uses to develop regulatory decisions. If a PWS monitoring for UCMR3 finds contaminants in its drinking water, it must provide the information to its customers in this annual water quality report. Below is a table of the results of our UCMR3 monitoring in 2014. All other contaminants tested during UCMR3 were Not Detected.

Unregulated Contaminants Detected During 2014			
Unregulated Contaminant	**Average Detection**	**Range of Detections**	**MCL**
1,4-Dioxane, ppb	ND	ND - 0.075	NA
Bromomethane, ppb	ND	ND - 0.024	NA
Chloromethane, ppb	ND	ND - 0.029	NA
Chlorate, ppb	79	NA - 249	NA
Chromium, ppb	0.34	ND - 0.71	NA
Hexavalent chromium, ppb	0.16	0.03 - 0.43	NA
Molybdenum, ppb	2.7	ND - 8.5	NA
Strontium, ppb	164	49 - 275	NA
Vanadium, ppb	0.7	ND - 1.4	NA

Notes:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Fluoride: Fluoride might help prevent tooth decay for children but can be harmful in excess. Customers in Bensalem receive water from fluoridated and unfluoridated supplies. Results in the table were based on operational monitoring of fluoride in the Bensalem distribution system. For more information about fluoride in your tap water, call Aqua at 610.645.4248 or visit our website at AquaAmerica.com. This information might be helpful to you, your pediatrician, or your dentist in determining whether fluoride supplements or treatment are appropriate.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

pCi/L, picoCuries/Liter: A unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.

ppb: A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion.

ppm: A unit of concentration equal to one part per million.

PWSID: Public water supply identification number.